

Ernie Fletcher
Governor

Teresa J. Hill
Secretary



Environmental Quality Commission

14 Reilly Road
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-1132
Phone (502) 564-2150 Fax (502) 564-9720
E-mail: EQC@ky.gov
www.eqc.ky.gov www.kentucky.gov

Lindell Ormsbee, Chair, *Lexington*
Gordon Garner, Vice-Chair, *Prospect*
Karen Deaton, *Somerset*
Andrew Ernest, *Bowling Green*
Rebecca Farris, *Lexington*
Eugene Zick, *Russellville*
Laura Knoth, *Grand Rivers*

4 December 2006

Teresa J. Hill, Secretary
Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet
Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, KY 40601

Secretary Hill:

The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) held a quarterly meeting on 13 November 2006. This meeting focused on human health and the environment, and Superfund issues within Kentucky were discussed. Representatives from the Division of Waste Management (DWM) indicated the DWM would be requesting continued funding for their Superfund Program from the Legislature during the 2008 session.

The DWM's Superfund Program seeks to ensure that contaminated sites are evaluated and cleaned up to reduce risks posed to human health and the environment. In most cases this means overseeing companies or individuals who have taken responsibility for cleaning up contamination found on their property. In cases where a responsible party cannot be found or is unable to act, the Superfund Branch may take a direct role in cleaning up a site using the Hazardous Waste Management Fund. This fund is generated by imposing an annual fee on eligible entities that engage in the generation of hazardous waste. The fund revenue, however, has been greatly reduced as the result of exemptions to the fee, a limited number of hazardous waste generators, and increased environmental compliance.

As this program is responsible for cleanup of sites impacted by the release of hazardous substances, financial support is critical to protecting Kentucky's human health and the environment. Additionally, there is an overall economic benefit to supporting the Superfund Program. For every dollar invested in Superfund site cleanup, which results in a healthier environment and increased public safety, the cleaned sites become more attractive to business and industry interested in Brownfield re-development in a location that provides for an environmentally safe quality of life.

The EQC urges the Cabinet to take action and support the DWM's Superfund Program. Thank you for your consideration of recommendations by the EQC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lindell Ormsbee".

Lindell Ormsbee, Chair, Environmental Quality Commission

Cc: Bruce Scott, Division of Waste Management
Lloyd Cress, Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, Office of the Secretary
Kate Shanks, Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, Office of the Secretary

